Introduction to Volume 4

The purpose of this publication is to provide participating schools with guidance on how to request, disburse, manage and report on the use of Federal Student Aid funds.

Here, we provide a summary of the changes and clarifications presented in greater detail in the chapters that follow. Alone, the text herein does not provide schools with the guidance needed to satisfactorily administer the Title IV, HEA programs. For more complete guidance, you should refer to the text in the chapters cited, the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) and the Higher Education Assistance Act (HEA) as amended:

Throughout this volume, new information is indicated with the following symbol:



When the text represents a clarification rather than a change, it is indicated with this symbol:



When we believe that historically there might be some misunderstanding of a requirement, we indicate that with:



Finally, if we want to point out a bit of helpful information we indicate it with:



Major Changes

Chapter 1 — Disbursing Federal Student Aid Funds

- We describe the TEACH Grant notification requirements.
- We explain what schools should do if they receive a request to cancel a student's TEACH Grant.
- We clarify the options a school has for determining current year charges.
- We explain that a student who, in response to a notice from the school, comes to pick up his or her credit balance within the 14-day timeframe must be able to leave the business office with the funds in some form.

Chapter 2 — Requesting and Managing FSA Funds

- We inform schools that the Department will no longer be providing funds using the Just-in-Time Payment Method.
- We explain how a school should return FSA funds it has held for more than 240 days because it was trying to locate a student in order to give the student his or her FSA credit balance.
- At the end of this chapter we have inserted a description of the process for returning funds on FFEL loans that have been purchased by the Department.